

Amendments to the Claims

1. – 20. (Cancel)

21. (Currently amended) A method for the treatment and prevention of adhesions in a patient, comprising the steps of:

- a. surgically accessing an animal or human pelvis, abdomen, thorax, pericardium, spinal cord, dura, tendon, tendon sheath, or tissues covered by an epithelial layer where adhesion(s) have formed or may form;
- b. dividing one or more adhesions that may be present or conducting other surgery, thereby forming an injured area;
- c. providing viable epithelial cells ~~or assuring that viable epithelial cells are present in or surrounding said injured area~~ and an absorbable protein; and
- d. applying ~~an absorbable substance, protein or polymer~~ said cells and protein in one or more layers ~~over said viable epithelial cells and~~ directly to said injured area to stabilize and temporarily separate the injured area from surrounding organ surfaces.

22. – 27. (Cancel)

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein said viable epithelial cells are harvested from ~~autologous tissue or cultured from cells harvested from the patient~~ a body cavity.

29. (Currently amended) The method of claim 28 wherein said viable epithelial cells are harvested from the patient's mouth or ~~from surfaces comprising non-keratinizing cells~~ oral cavity.

30. – 32. (Cancel)

33. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21 wherein the absorbable ~~substance~~ protein ~~comprises~~ is fibrin glue.

34. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the cells and protein are applied separately to the injured area.

35. (New) The method of claim 21 wherein the cells and protein are admixed prior to application to the injured area, and the admixture is applied to the injured area.

36. (New) The method of claim 35 wherein a second layer of absorbable protein is applied over the initial layer of cells and protein mixture.